

ABSTRACT

CONJUGATES OF HAPTENS TO  $\beta$ -LACTAM DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE  
FOR DETECTING AND/OR QUANTIFYING HAPTENS IN SOLUTION AND  
5 DEVICE FOR IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF.

The present invention is related to a conjugate of a hapten to a natural or synthetic  $\beta$ -lactam derivative, comprising at least a side chain, wherein the  
10 side chain of the  $\beta$ -lactam derivative is at least partially constitutive of the conjugating arm.

The invention relates also to a method for the immunoassay of the hapten involving said  $\beta$ -lactam derivative - hapten conjugate as an inhibitor for a  $\beta$ -  
15 lactamase or a penicillin detector capable of specific recognition of the  $\beta$ -lactamic moiety of said conjugate.

(Figure 1)